GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:166
ANSWERED ON:15.03.2005
EXPORT BY PHARMACEUTICAL COMPANIES
Ahir Shri Hansraj Gangaram;Rathod Shri Harisingh Nasaru

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the exports made by Indian Pharmaceutical Companies during the financial year 2004-05;

(b) whether the new Patent Law is likely to have any adverse impact on pharmaceutical exports;

(c) if so, the extent thereof;

(d) India`s share in world pharmaceutical production and exports; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government for promoting pharmaceutical production and exports in the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH)

(a): In 8 months of the current financial year i.e. from April, 2004 to November, 2004, Pharmaceutical exports worth Rs. 9903 crores have been achieved.

(b) & (c): It is unlikely that such a thing would happen because the Government has undertaken broad-based and extensive consultations with all the stake holders and built in safeguards.

(d): India ranks 4th worldwide, accounting for 8% of world`s production by volume and 1.5% by value. It ranks 17th in terms of export value of bulk actives and dosage forms.

(e): To boost production, licensing of all bulk drugs and their intermediates & formulations, cleared by Drug Controller General (India) (excluding those kept under Industrial Licensing) has been abolished and Foreign Direct investment up to 100% and Automatic approval for Foreign Technology Agreements has been allowed. For export promotion a number of incentives under the Foreign Trade Policy as also under Market Development Assistance (MDA) and Market Access Initiative (MAI) schemes are available.